

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 MC-02 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 L-03

EB-11 COME-00 DRC-01 /079 W
----- 070247

P 031915Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8032

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, PINS, PINR

SUBJ: ORLANDO LETELIER ACCUSED IN PRESS OF ARMS DEAL FOR ALLENDE

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. RIGHTIST, SOMEWHAT SENSATIONALIST AFTER-
NOON PAPER LA SEGUNDA APRIL 1 CARRIED FULL CENTER SPREAD REPRODUCTION
OF LETTER ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN SENT TO ALLENDE FROM CHILEAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON ON JANUARY 21, 1973 BY THEN AMBASSADOR ORLANDO
LETELIER. LETELIER DETAINED ON DAWSON ISLAND SINCE SEPTEMBER 1973
COUP.

2. LETTER PURPORTS TO RESOND TO PERSONAL ALLENDE REQUEST FOR PUR-
CHASE ONE RPT ONE "MINI MACHINE PISTOL (M11)" WITH SILENCER, AND
TWO RPT TWO SMALL REVOLVERS. LETELIER SENT ARMS CATALOGS WITH LETTER
GIVING SUGGESTIONS AND PRICES. LETTER MARKED PERSONAL AND SENT BY
SAFEHAND.

3. LA SEGUNDA TREATS LETTER AS EVIDENCE UNIDAD POPULAR ARMS
SMUGGLING, LINKING IT TO ARMS CACHES OF ALLENDE BODYGUARD AND MIR
FOUND SINCE COUP. NO RPT NO OTHER NEWSPAPER MENTIONED STORY
APRIL 1 OR 2. END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. BEGIN LOU. COMMENT. ASSUMING LETTER IS GENUINE,
IT APPEARS CLARLY TO BE A COMPLICATED, AMATEURISH DEAL TO SUPPLY
GUN HOBBYIST ALLENDE WITH INTERESTING PERSOANL ITEMS WHILE
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AVOIDING PUBLICITY. ATTEMPT TO RAISE IT TO LEVEL IMPORTANT

POLITICAL CONCERN SEEMS LUDICROUS. LETTER PROBABLY GIVEN TO
PAPER BY GOC SOURCE, CONCEIVABLY TRYING SET STAGE FOR TRIAL
CHARGING LETELIER WITH ARMS SMUGGLING. DURING AAMBASSADOR'S
PORTOCOL VISIT TO MIN JUSTICE PRIETO MARCH 14 (REPORTED IN
MEMCON SENT ARA/BC), PRIETO MADE REFERENCE TO INVOLVEMENT
LETELIER IN ALLOWING ARMS, INCLUDING PISTOLS WITH SILENCERS,
INTO CHILE ILLEGALLY. IF THIS IS EXTENT EVIDENCE, LETELIER MAY
INDEED BE CONVICTED OF VIOLATIONS OF LETTER ARMS CONTROL LAWS,
BUT INTERNAL AND FOREIGN OPINION WILL BE UNIMPRESSED.
POPPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PROCUREMENT, ARMS SMUGGLING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SANTIA01693
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740074-0944
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740470/aaaacmod.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 SEP 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <18-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ORLANDO LETELIER ACCUSED IN PRESS OF ARMS DEAL FOR ALLENDE
TAGS: PINS, PINR, CI, (LETELTER, ORLANDO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005